

R E M A R K S

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

THE CLAIMS

The claims have been amended to make some minor grammatical improvements and to correct some minor antecedent basis problems so as to put them in better form for issuance in a U.S. patent. In particular, it is noted that claim 6 has been amended to correct the informality pointed out by the Examiner.

Non-elected, non-linking claims 53-60 and 70-79 have been canceled, without prejudice.

No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that the amendments to the claims be approved and entered.

It is respectfully submitted, moreover, that the amendments to the claims are not related to patentability, and do not narrow the scope of the claims either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents.

THE PRIOR ART REJECTION

Claims 1-4 and 6-8 were rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious in view of JP 06-195440 ("Takumi"), and claim 5 was rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious in view of the

combination of Takumi and US 2003/0122925 ("Yoon"). These rejections, however, are respectfully traversed.

According to the present invention as recited in independent claim 1, there is provided an image display device comprising a display portion that is configured to project light onto the eyeballs of a user. As recited in claim 1, the display portion is configured to project the light via eyepiece optical systems respectively corresponding to the eyes of a user, and as recited in claim 1, the light is emitted from a two-dimensional light emitting type photoelectric device which is perpendicular to a light beam emitting direction. In addition, as recited in claim 1, the image display device comprises a supporting portion that supports the display portion at a portion that is not in contact with the user, and a face contact portion that is supported by the display portion, that is configured to contact with face sides of the user so as to sandwich the face of the user, and that is capable of changing a distance between the eyepiece optical systems and the eyes of the user.

It is respectfully submitted that Takumi does not at all disclose, teach or suggest the above described features of the present invention as recited in independent claim 1.

On page 3 of the Office Action, with respect to the feature of claim 1 whereby the face contact portion is supported by the display portion, the Examiner asserts that item 4 in Fig. 9 of

Takumi "provides for attachment between the face contact and display portions and thus support of the face contact portion by the display portion." Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Item 4 of Takumi is merely a light reflector. Contrary to the Examiner's assertion, it is respectfully submitted that the light reflector 4 is not provided for attachment between face contact and display portions. And it is respectfully submitted that the light reflector 4 of Takumi is not provided such that a face contact portion of Takumi is (physically) supported by a display portion as according to the claimed present invention.

See, for example, Figs. 5 and 7 of the present application.

Generally, Takumi discloses a head follow-up type display device in which a display part 3 supported by a arm portion 1 is apart from the face of a user wearing headphones or glasses with the light reflector 4. However, contrary to the claimed present invention, in Takumi, the structure of the headphones or glasses with the light reflector 4 (which, according to the Examiner, corresponds to the face contact portion of the claimed present invention) is not supported by (or attached to) the display part 3.

That is, in Takumi, the display part 3 and the headphones or glasses with the light reflector 4 are located apart (separate) from each other and move independently. In Takumi, sensors and actuators with high accuracy and a sophisticated control system

are provided in order to make the display part 3 follow movement of the face of the user. See claim 1 of Takumi. In order to make the display part 3 follow movement of the face of the user, in Takumi, the light reflector 4 works as a part of a sensing system such that the light reflector 4 reflects light 57 emitted from light emitting devices and the reflected light 58 enters a position sensor 9. See Fig. 3 of Takumi. Clearly, contrary to the claimed present invention, the structure of the headphones or glasses with the light reflector 4 of Takumi is not supported by (or attached to) the display part 3.

The head follow-up type display device of Takumi solves the problem of ordinary head coupled displays where users cannot use their hands freely, or the problem of ordinary head mount displays where users feel that the weight of the display is significantly loaded on them when the display is used for a long time. However, in order to solve the above problems, the head follow-up type display device of Takumi uses expensive equipment such as sensors, actuators and control systems, thereby causing high production cost. In addition, with the head follow-up type display device of Takumi, there is a potential risk of the display part 3 accidentally hitting the face of the user due to an abnormality or a program bug in the control system.

According to the present invention as recited in independent claim 1, the face contact portion in contact with the face of the

user is supported by the display portion. That is, the display portion and the face of the user are linked to each other by the face contact portion. See, for example, Figs. 5 and 7 of the present application. With the structure of the present invention as recited in independent claim 1, the weight of the display portion and the face contact portion is supported by the supporting portion. Therefore, the weight of the display portion and the face contact portion is not loaded onto the user. Also, the face contact portion is configured to sandwich the face of the user so as to make the display portion follow movement of the face of the user. Therefore, the display portion can move according to movement of the face of the user without the hand of the user being used. That is, with the structure of the present invention as recited in independent claim 1, the weight of the display portion is not loaded onto the user and the user can use his hands freely. Moreover, with the structure of the claimed present invention, the display portion is configured to follow movement of the face of the user without using the expensive equipment such as the sensors, actuators and control systems as used by Takumi. And still further, with the structure of the claimed present invention, there is no risk of the display portion accidentally hitting the face of the user as in Takumi.

In short, it is respectfully submitted that Takumi does not at all achieve or render obvious the above described claimed

structural features and advantageous effects of the present invention as recited in independent claim 1.

Yoon, moreover, has been merely cited with respect to the subject matter of dependent claim 5.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that even if Takumi and Yoon were combinable in the manner suggested by the Examiner, such combination would still not achieve or render obvious the claimed structural features and advantageous effects of the present invention as recited in independent claim 1.

Claims 18, 27, 43 and 61 (and all of the claims respectively depending therefrom) are linked to independent claim 1. (See page 3 of the Restriction Requirement dated August 5, 2008.) Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw the Restriction Requirement with respect to the linked claims.

Still further, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 27 and 61 are also patentable over Takumi and Yoon for at least the same reasons as set forth hereinabove with respect to independent claim 1.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that amended independent claims 1, 27 and 61, and claims 2-26, 28-52 and 62-69 respectively depending therefrom, all clearly patentably distinguish over the cited prior art references, taken singly or in combination, under 35 USC 103.

In view of the foregoing, entry of this Amendment, allowance of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

/Douglas Holtz/

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